

BOROUGH OF WORKINGTON



THE ANNUAL REPORT

of

The Medical Officer of Health

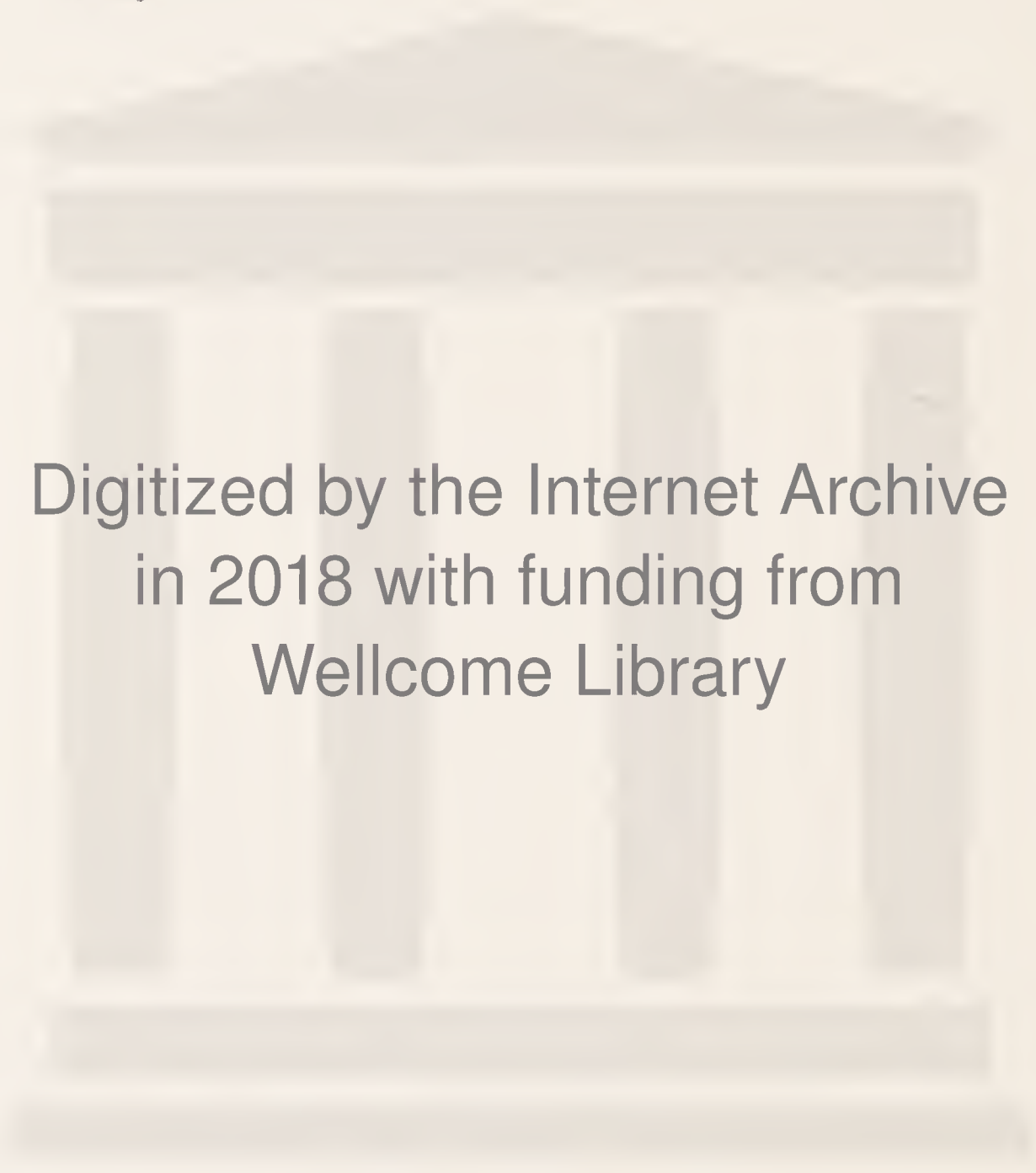
J. L. HUNTER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

and

The Chief Public Health Inspector

D. A. FOGG, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

FOR THE YEAR 1964



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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

1964

Chairman :

Councillor D. VICKERS.

The Mayor

Councillor Mrs. A. B. THOMAS, J.P.

Aldermen

Mrs. B. O. McKEATING, C.C. Mrs. M. A. SMITH.

R. TOWNSLEY, J.P. W. A. WALKER.

Councillors :

J. MAGUIRE (Vice-Chairman).

P. G. BENTLEY

Mrs. A. J. CARIGIET

F. ELLIOTT

J. E. LOVELL.

H. H. McMANUS.

W. C. WHALLEY.

J. R. WHITE.

A. YOUNG, M.B.E.

Staff of the Public Health Department

JAMES L. HUNTER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.	Medical Officer of Health.
R. E. FLETCHER, M.B., Ch.B.	Deputy Medical Officer of Health.
RICHARD JAMES, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.	Chief Public Health Inspector (retired November, 1964).
DONALD A. FOGG, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.	Chief Public Health Inspector (appointed December, 1964)
CHARLES E. PEARSON, M.A.P.H.I.	Assistant Public Health Inspector.
LESLIE CRELLING, A.R.S.H.	Technical Assistant (appointed August, 1964)
Mrs. E. SMITH	Clerk (resigned September, 1964).
ROBERT PECKFORD	Clerk (resigned September, 1964).
Miss E. DOUGLAS	Clerk (appointed November, 1964).
LEONARD BLAND	Rodent Operator.

TOWN HALL,
WORKINGTON,
July, 1965.

*To the Worshipful the Mayor, the Aldermen and
Councillors of the Borough of Workington.*

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report as your Medical Officer of Health for the year 1964. The report follows the lines laid down by Circular 1/65 of the Ministry of Health.

The health of the town has been generally good and the year passed without any high incidence of infectious disease of a serious nature. Repercussions of the outbreak of typhoid in Aberdeen did not appear to include any special fear or sign of alarm among the population. The many measures taken in respect of tinned meat were accepted cheerfully by the tradesmen concerned. Advantage was also taken of the position to carry out a measure of health education to those handling food.

The vital statistics of the town show a slight drop in the total population. The birth-rate, however, increased to 18.5 from the figure of 16.8 in 1963 and the general death rate fell from 13.9 in 1963 to 12.3. The infantile mortality rate rose from 14.0 to 23.6. However such figures in small populations may fluctuate widely. The deaths included one maternal death in which the cause was self-induced abortion. Deaths from violence fell but deaths from cancer, especially cancer of the lung, increased sharply. Apart from cancer of the lung, respiratory disease was not a common cause of death, nine only being ascribed to bronchitis. For the second year in succession no deaths were ascribed to tuberculosis.

The greatest environmental need of the town is still that of housing. Even although the building programme increases and the number of frank slum properties lessens there is still great need for continued review of the housing situation. The Housing Act of 1964 presents a new standard of amenity as opposed to a standard of sanitary defect under the older acts and places on district authorities the very large task of a new review of housing conditions. The anticipated work in housing plus the additional work under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act resulted in the decision to raise the establishment by two additional public health inspectors,

Some improvement was effected in the emission of black smoke by large concerns during the year but it is hoped that all industrial firms will do their best to minimise pollution of the air. It is also hoped that the Council will plan to instal smokeless grates in new Council houses as a beginning in the control of smoke from domestic premises and as a prelude to the declaration of a programme of Smoke Control Areas.

The function of Refuse Control does not remain in a static condition. This apparently mundane and uninteresting subject is in fact as full of possibilities of change as refuse is varied in character. Thought this year has been directed mainly upon a modification in tipping because of the increasing difficulty in dealing with bulky refuse. The answer would appear to be greater compaction of the layers of refuse with a heavy caterpillar tracked vehicle. It is hoped to evolve a *modus operandi* in the ensuing year so as to provide compaction and enough depth to ensure the production of heat. It is hoped also to take up again an extension of the paper-bag system.

It is hoped to recruit to the public health inspectorate additional inspectors in 1965. It was with great regret that the department bade farewell to Mr. Richard James on his retirement after 28 years as Chief Public Health Inspector. It is a pleasure to express here also our thanks for his work to the Borough and our best wishes for a happy retirement. We welcome Mr. D. A. Fogg in Mr. James' place and hope he will be happy in his life and work in the department. I wish to thank all members of the staff and the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their support and encouragement during the year. I wish also to thank my colleagues in the hospital service and in general practice for much information and help in 1964.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. L. HUNTER,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS

1.—General

(a) A high level of employment was maintained during the year in the main industries of the town and the introduction of new concerns was taken a stage further—to the preparation of grounds for new factories in the Northside area.

(b) Town Statistics.

Area in Acres	5,644
Population (Registrar-General's Estimate of Residents—mid-year, 1964)	29,770
Rateable Value	£1,054,198
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£4,340

Note: The rateable value given comprises £458,026 from 9,558 premises used as dwelling houses and £596,172 from 1,796 businesses or industrial premises.

2.—Vital Statistics

Births.

Live Births.

Number: 552.

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Legitimate Births ...	273	242	515
Illegitimate Births	15	22	37
	<hr/> 288	<hr/> 264	<hr/> 552

Rate per 1,000 population 18.5

Adjusted Rate 18.5

Illegitimate Live Births (per
cent. of total live births) 6.7

Still Births.

Number: 10.

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Legitimate Births ...	6	4	10
Illegitimate Births	—	—	—
	<hr/> 6	<hr/> 4	<hr/> 10

Rate per 1,000 live and still births 17.8

Infant Deaths.

Number: 13.

Infant Mortality Rates:

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	23.6
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	21.4
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	54.0
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under four weeks per 1,000 total live births)	18.1
Early neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under one week per 1,000 total live births)	18.1
Peri-natal Mortality Rate (still-births and deaths under one week combined per 1,000 live and still-births)	35.6
Maternal Mortality (including abortion)	
Number of deaths: 1.	
Rate per 1,000 live and still births	1.8

Deaths.

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Deaths (all ages)	163	173	336
Death rate per 1,000 population			11.3
Adjusted rate			12.3
Total Deaths from certain causes:			
Meningococcal infection		1	
Other infectious diseases		Nil	
Cancer of lung		20	
Leukaemia		1	
Influenza		1	
Motor vehicle accidents		3	
All other accidents		7	
Suicide		1	

3.—Notes and Comparisons on Vital Statistics.**Births.**

Live Birth Rates:—

	1964	1963	1962
Workington M.B. (adjusted) ...	18.5	16.8	17.0
Urban Districts of Cumberland	18.8	16.8	18.3
Rural Districts of Cumberland	18.1	18.2	18.3
County of Cumberland	18.4	17.7	18.3
England and Wales	18.4	18.2	18.0

Deaths.

Death Rates:—

	1964	1963	1962
Workington M.B. (adjusted) ...	12.3	13.9	14.5
Urban Districts of Cumberland	11.5	11.7	12.3
Rural Districts of Cumberland	12.0	13.1	12.1
County of Cumberland	11.8	12.5	12.2
England and Wales	11.3	12.2	11.9

There was one maternal death (due to self-induced abortion), this being the first for many years. There were no deaths from tuberculosis, only one attributed to influenza and one to other notifiable disease. There was a sharp increase in deaths due to cancer of the lung—20 in 1964 as compared to 13 in 1963. Deaths from violence, accidents and suicide fell in number. Of three deaths between the ages of one year and five, one was accidental (on the highway), another also accidental (at home—asphyxia inhalation) and one due to influenza meningitis.

The death rate fell from 13.9 in 1963 to 12.3 while the birth rate rose from 16.8 in 1963 to 18.5. The Registrar-General's mid year estimate of population fell however.

Table 1 below gives the age at death of residents in 1964 and Table 2 gives the causes of deaths.

TABLE 1

The Age at Death of Workington Residents — 1964

Age Groups	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year	1—5	5—15	15—25	25—35	35—45	45—55	55—65	65—75	75 & over	Total
Males	5	2	1		1		4	13	37	59	41	163
Females	5	1	2	1	1		5	11	30	42	75	173
Total	10	3	3	1	2		9	24	67	101	116	336

TABLE 2
Registrar-General's Table of Deaths.
Workington M.B.—1964

		<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
3	Syphilitic disease	1	—	1
6	Meningococcal infection	1	—	1
10	Neoplasm, Stomach	5	3	8
11	„ Lung, Bronchus	16	4	20
12	„ Breast	—	5	5
13	„ Uterus	—	6	6
14	„ Other Forms	19	14	33
15	Leukemia	—	1	1
16	Diabetes	1	—	1
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	21	36	57
18	Coronary Disease, Angina	36	32	68
19	Hypertension with heart disease ...	1	4	5
20	Other heart disease	8	19	27
21	Other Circulatory disease	8	8	16
22	Influenza	1	—	1
23	Pneumonia	9	6	15
24	Bronchitis	8	1	9
25	Other diseases of Respiratory System	2	1	3
26	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	—	1
28	Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	—	1
29	Hyperplasia of Prostrate	3	—	3
30	Pregnancy, Childbirth and abortion	—	1	1
31	Congenital Malformations	1	2	3
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	16	23	39
33	Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	1	3
34	All other accidents	1	6	7
35	Suicide	1	—	1
		<hr/> 163	<hr/> 173	<hr/> 336

4.—Infantile and Peri-natal Mortality.

There was an increase in infantile deaths—13 in 1964 as compared to 7 in 1963 thus raising the infantile mortality rate from 14.0 in 1963 to 23.6 in 1964. The peri-natal rate remained high at 35.6. Table 3 gives the Infantile Mortality Rate from the year 1911 and the Peri-natal Mortality Rate from 1956, while Table 4 gives the Age of Death and Cause of Death of Infant Deaths during the year.

TABLE 3

**Annual Infantile Mortality
and Peri-Natal Mortality**

<i>Period.</i>	<i>Infantile Mortality</i>		<i>Peri-natal Mortality</i>	
	<i>Workington</i>	<i>England</i>	<i>Workington</i>	<i>England</i>
	<i>M.B.</i>	<i>and Wales.</i>	<i>M.B.</i>	<i>and Wales.</i>
1911-1915	135	110		
1916-1920	113	90		
1921-1925	102	76		
1926-1930	76	68		
1931-1935	70	62		
1936-1940	63	55		
1941-1945	52	50		
1946-1950	41	36		
1951-1955	29	27		
1956-1960	30	23	46.8	35.0
1961	17.6	21.4	21.2	32.2
1962	11.5	21.4	25.4	30.8
1963	14.0	20.9	33.1	29.3
1964	23.6	20.0	35.6	28.2

TABLE 4

**Infantile Deaths — Workington M.B. 1964
shown by Age and Cause of Death**

Cause of Death.	Age in Weeks				Age in Months						Total
	0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	0-1	1-2	2-3	3-6	6-9	9-12	
Prematurity	7				7						7
Congenital Defect	2				2						2
Intra cranial haemorrhage	1				1						1
Meningococcal cystician ...								1			1
Bronch-pneumonia						1					1
Inhallation asphyxia								1			1
Total	10				10	1		2			13

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

(a) Staff.

There were a number of changes in the staff and in the establishment during the year. Mr. R. James, Chief Public Health Inspector for twenty-eight years, resigned in November. Mr. L. Crelling was appointed Technical Assistant to fill a vacancy of eleven months in the establishment. Mr. D. A. Fogg was appointed Chief Public Health Inspector in November. The establishment of public health inspectors was raised by two but the posts were not filled by the end of the year.

The two clerks, Mrs. E. Smith and Mr. R. Pickford both resigned in August on taking up posts with the Local Health Authority. The establishment meantime had been reduced to one clerk following re-organisation of the clerk/typist needs of the town hall as a whole and the single post was filled by the appointment of Miss E. Douglas in November.

The staff of the department and the Members of the Public Health Committee are listed at the beginning of the report.

(b) Laboratory Services.

The Carlisle Laboratory of the Public Health Laboratory Service has carried out most of the sampling of water and other bacteriological investigations during the year. I wish to thank Dr. D. G. Davies, the director of the laboratory for much help and kindness during the year.

(c) Local Health Authority Services.

A certain amount of re-organisation of the personal health services of the county took place during the year. From mid-October area administration took over the health and welfare services except for finance and policy matters. The county is now sub-divided into three areas—North, West and South, and Workington Borough for purposes of personal health and welfare services falls within the West area along with Maryport U.D.C., Cockermouth U.D.C., and R.D.C. and Keswick U.D.C. The West Area Office is at Stoneleigh, Park End Road, Workington.

A new Clinic was opened at Salterbeck in 1964 and two temporary arrangements in church halls were discontinued. The times, places and services are now as follows:—

Child Welfare, including Health Education and various immunisations: Park Lane Clinic, Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 2 p.m.; Salterbeck, Fridays at 2 p.m.

School Clinic: Park Lane Clinic at 9 a.m.

Dental Clinic: at Park Lane Clinic, Stoneleigh, and at Salterbeck Clinic by appointment.

Orthopaedic and After-care Clinic: At Park Lane Clinic by appointment.

Orthoptic Clinic: at Salterbeck Clinic by appointment.

Speech Therapy: at Park Lane Clinic by appointment.

B.C.G. vaccination is carried out mainly in schools for children aged 13 years and over.

(d) National Assistance Acts.

No proceedings were necessary under these Acts during the year.

(e) Port Health.

No case of infectious disease was notified from this port during the year.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Details and observations on the sanitary circumstances of the town are given by Mr. D. A. Fogg, Chief Public Health Inspector in his report. Information pertaining to housing and sewerage has also been supplied by the Borough Surveyor.

1. Housing.

The new Housing Act of 1964 lays upon the local authority the duty of assessment of the housing needs of the district from a new criterion—that of amenity, that is to say a standard of what is desirable for good living conditions rather than one of sanitary defects. This new concept of living conditions in the house means a very large scale of inspection, general and particular, for practically the whole town. It is likely that many hundreds of houses will fall

short of the new standard. It will require the larger establishment of public health inspectors to cover the needs of inspection and follow-up on inspection.

The number of new houses erected during the year was 86 by the Corporation and 140 by private builders.

2. Water Supply.

The supply of water to the town is the responsibility of the West Cumberland Water Board. The source is upland lake giving a soft, potentially plumbo-solvent, water which is coarsely screened but not filtered, is hardened by the addition of lime and is chlorinated at Lorton not far from the course. Water sampling is carried out both by the Water Board and the Public Health Department. During the year the forty-five bacteriological samples were taken from widely spread points in the town. The results were satisfactory in the main, and only three samples required repeating during the year. Chemical analysis gave the following result:

Chemical Analysis.

Appearance	Clear and colourless
Odour	nil
Reaction, pH	6.8
	parts per million
Total solids	41.0
Nitrogen as free and saline ammonia	0.0
Nitrogen as albuminoid ammonia	0.04
Nitrogen as nitrites	nil
Nitrogen as nitrates	0.0
Chlorides as Cl	8.0
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in 4 hours at 27°C.	0.49
Total hardness	16.0
Temporary hardness	9.0
Permanent hardness	7.0
Alkalinity	9.0
Free Chlorine	nil
Potassium, as K	0.2
Anionic synthetic detergents	nil
Manganese, as Mn	—
Cyanides and thiocyanates	—
Poisonous metals	nil

Opinion.

The chemical and bacteriological condition of this water is satisfactory.

3. Sewerage

No major sewerage works were carried out during the year but preliminary work was started in respect of the unsatisfactory outfalls.

4. Refuse Collection and Disposal.

The policy in collection continues to be the eventual replacement of metal bins by paper bags and the resultant change from kerbside to back-door collection. No major difficulties have been encountered with paper-bag collection so far and the change has been generally welcome to the householders so far involved.

At the time of writing a caterpillar-tracked mechanical shovel had been obtained and experiments were proceeding in compacting and layering refuse.

During the year the total weight of refuse collected from 10,377 premises was 10,633 tons of which 9,794 was household refuse. The net cost per ton was £2 11s. 1d. Income from paper, scrap metal, etc. amounted to £541 11s. 7d.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

1. The notification of infectious disease was low although Measles showed its biennial increase. The one notified case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum should be accepted as one of the markers that this town has an increasing incidence of gonorrhoea and deserves the unsavoury reputation of being the blackspot in Cumberland as far as venereal disease is concerned.

Apart from these there was no disease of special note occurring during the year. A small number of cases of Infective Jaundice were reported by general practitioners but this condition is not statutory notifiable and no special preventive measures are applicable. Table 6 at the end of this sub-section gives details of diseases notified during the year.

2.—VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION — — —

(a) *Protection against Poliomyelitis.*

Despite the ease of administering and accepting preventive doses of oral vaccine the numbers accepting protection again fell in 1964—461 received primary courses, 19 first boosters and 67 second boosters.

(b) *Diphtheria Immunisation.*

Practically all primary courses in your children are now of triple antigen giving protection against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus. A total of 524 primary courses and 514 booster doses containing protection against diphtheria were given during the year. The immunity index, i.e. the figure giving the percentage number of children inoculated within the previous five years, again rose. Table 5 gives the comparative figures since 1953. The figure for children between 0-14 years (62) is the highest since 1953.

TABLE 5

**Immunity Index—Percentage of the Child
Population Adequately Protected.**

<i>At.</i>		<i>Under 1 yr.</i>	<i>2-4 yrs.</i>	<i>5-6 yrs.</i>	<i>10-14 yrs.</i>	<i>0-14 yrs.</i>
31-12-53	.....	3	49	81	69	64
31-12-54	.....	4	49	71	38	51
31-12-55	.....	3	50	84	49	59
31-12-56	.....	8	48	81	62	61
31-12-57	.....	10	52	67	58	56
31-12-58	.....	10	51	52	56	54
31-12-59	.....	16	51	32	57	45
31-12-60	.....	17	52	39	28	37
31-12-61	.....	28	58	37	17	36
31-12-62	.....	23	62	28	17	33
31-12-63	.....	31	69	68	44	58
31-12-64	.....	29	72	62	61	62

(c) *Smallpox Vaccination.*

A total of 153 primary and 10 re-vaccinations were carried out in children up to the age of 15 years.

TABLE 6
Workington M.B.
Notification of Infectious Disease, — 1964

	Total No of cases.	Age Groups.									Died.
		—1	1+	2+	3+	4+	5—9	10—14	15—24	25+	
Scarlet Fever	5		1				3		1		
Whooping Cough	40	4	5	7	5	8	6	2	2	1	
Measles	312	9	42	32	46	36	145	1	1		
Dysentery	3						3				
Food Poisoning											
		—5	5—14	15—44	45—64	65+					
Erysipelas	2			1	1						
Ophthalmia neonatorum	1	1									
Tuberculosis— Respiratory	12			8	4						
Meninges											
Other	2		1	1							

3. Tuberculosis

(a) Prevention.

Early detection by Mass X-ray and quick follow-up of contacts, modern chemical treatment, B.C.G. vaccination and diminishing risk of exposure to infection are probably the reasons for the decreasing incidence and decreasing death-rate.

B.C.G. vaccination is carried out by the Chest Physician and in 13-year-old school children by the Local Health Authority. During 1964 school children were offered and took advantage of vaccination as follows:—

Number offered B.C.G. vaccination ...	1,160
Number of acceptances	830
Number tested	707
Number Mantoux-positive	91
Number vaccinated	566

During 1964 the Mass X-ray unit became stationed at one site in town in replacement of a programme of visits to towns, villages and factories. Also during the year a special campaign was held in Workington by street-to-street visitation, eighty-eight sites being visited in turn. This resulted in 4,013 miniature films and 80 cases recalled for clinical examinations. Two new active cases and fifteen non-active cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were discovered and also two cases of cancer of the lung and 36 other conditions of the lung requiring investigation or treatment. In addition the static unit carried out 704 examinations and brought to light three active and two inactive cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and two further cases of cancer of the lung.

(b) Incidence, Notifications and Deaths.

The incidence of tuberculosis continues to fall as does the number of Mantoux-positive children in the school groups offered vaccination.

Twelve cases of the respiratory type were notified during the year (all aged over 14 years) and two non-respiratory cases. No death was attributed to the disease in the table of the Registrar General. Table 7 gives deaths and death-rates for the disease and a comparison with corresponding figures for England and Wales.

TABLE 7
Tuberculosis—Workington—1964
Deaths and Death-Rate.

Years	No. of Deaths—Workington			Death Rate per 1,000 Pop.	
	Respiratory	Non-Respiratory	Total	Workington	England and Wales
1911-1915	27.3	4.8	42.1	1.69	1.41
1916-1920	21.8	13.4	35.2	1.25	1.48
1921-1925	17.4	6.6	24.0	0.88	1.08
1926-1930	18.2	8.2	26.4	1.01	0.94
1931-1935	22.8	8.0	30.8	1.19	0.81
1936-1940	20.0	5.4	25.4	0.92	0.67
1941-1945	19.7	5.9	25.6	0.86	0.66
1946-1950	17.2	1.8	19.0	0.67	0.48
1951-1955	9.0	0.8	9.8	0.34	0.22
1956-1960	2.2	0.4	2.6	0.09	0.10
1961	1	—	1	0.03	0.07
1962	2	—	2	0.07	0.07
1963	—	—	—	0.00	0.06
1964	—	—	—	0.00	0.05

TABLE 8

Tuberculosis—Workington—1964.
Incidence as at 31-12-1964.

<i>Respiratory Cases.</i>	
Males	54
Females	45
Total	99
<i>Non-Respiratory Cases.</i>	
Males	23
Females	22
Total	45
Total on Register	144

4.—Cancer — — — — —

Deaths from cancer increased by about one-third—from 49 cases in 1963 to 72 in 1964. Cancer of the lung increased by seven cases and cancer of the uterus by five. The youngest death from cancer of the lung was 47 and the average age at death was 63. Two of the six deaths from cancer of the uterus were below 50 years of age. Statistically at least many deaths from cancer of the lung could be prevented by giving up cigarette smoking. Cervical cytology starting in the area in 1965 may go a long way in discovering early signs of cancer of the cervix with high hope of eradication by a reasonably simple operative procedure.

There was one death from leukaemia in 1964.

The range of age at death in males from all types of cancer was 47 to 90 with an average age at death of 67 years: in females the range was 7 years to 82 with an average age at death of 60.

The distribution of cancer by site and sex was as follows:

<i>Site.</i>	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Stomach	5	3	8
Lung	16	4	20
Breast	—	5	5
Uterus	—	6	6
Other sites	19	14	33
	—	—	—
	40	32	72
	—	—	—

**Annual Report
of
The Chief Public Health Inspector**

Town Hall,
Workington.
July, 1965.

*To the Worshipful the Mayor, the Aldermen
and Councillors of the Borough of Workington.*

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting this report on the work carried out in the department during Mr. James' last year in office.

Complaints associated with housing continued to loom large in the day to day work and there is no doubt in my mind but that this aspect is, in itself, the greatest problem facing the Borough in the future.

The improvement of houses, by means of discretionary and standard improvement grants has been comparatively slow, only 95 for the year and a total of 260 for the last four years. These figures indicate that very little impression is being made on the problem as a whole and, therefore, the Housing Act, 1964 has been a welcome "shot in the arm" for the policy of house improvement. This Act has now made it possible to improve houses, in blocks and streets at a time, by providing them with the amenities which have come to be looked upon as necessities in this day and age. However, even with the powers provided in the Act, the task will not be an easy one and the co-operation of owner/occupiers, landlords, tenants, builders and all other persons concerned will be necessary before it can be properly accomplished.

At the same time the question of slum-clearance must not be forgotten and a complete re-assessment now needs to be made of properties which could well be included in this category—always bearing in mind that standards are continually rising and, therefore, we should now read "sub-standard" in place of "slum".

Visits to food shops were reduced to approximately half the number that were made in 1963 and when it is realised that a large proportion of these visits were in connection with the Aberdeen outbreak, rather than deliberate routine inspections, it becomes clear that this side of our work had almost "ground to a halt". I am sure that this outbreak merely serves to emphasise the necessity for constant vigilance in all food premises and this can only be accomplished by regular routine inspections, even in establishments that are considered to be in the forefront in hygiene.

During the year it became compulsory for the registration of all premises covered by the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963 and by the end of the year there were 358 premises registered at which there were 2,009 persons employed. However, unfortunately, it was not possible to commence with the necessary inspections. Many of the Regulations and Orders were also made, under the various sections of the Act, governing such matters as sanitary accommodation, washing facilities, first aid, dangerous machinery, etc., and the Ministry of Labour issued a host of circulars giving useful guidance on the problems which were likely to arise. This Act also has proved to have had a very welcome "side effect" in so far as it has provided for an even closer link and spirit of co-operation with H.M. Factory Inspectorate. In order to obtain uniformity of enforcement discussions have taken place between us on matters of interpretation and problems of demarcation and I am sure this can only be of great benefit for the future and in ensuring that the best possible conditions be obtained for the persons employed in premises covered by the Act.

The two atmospheric pollution observation stations have been maintained throughout the year although, unfortunately, a fire in the baling shed put No. 1 station out of action for the last six weeks. The continuous information which is obtained from these stations is invaluable, and from the graphs in the body of the report the recordings show the typical pattern, which is found in all other parts of the country and continues to confirm that the worst offender is "domestic smoke".

The shortage of staff created many difficulties particularly in the fields of work referred to above, however, the decision to increase the establishment by two additional public health inspectors should place the department on a far better footing to carry out its statutory obligations in the future.

I would also like to take this opportunity to place on record my appreciation of the help and support I have received from the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, Dr. Hunter, and members of the Staff.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

D. A. FOGG,

Chief Public Health Inspector,

HOUSING — — — — —

1. Inspections of Dwelling-houses during the Year.

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	1397
(b)	Number of inspections made for this purpose	2225
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	Nil
(b)	Number of inspections made for this purpose	Nil
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	10
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	214

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without**Service of Formal Notices :**

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or other officers	208
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3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :

(a)	Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 12 of the Housing Act, 1957.	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
(a)	By Owners	Nil
(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil
(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts:	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	14
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
(a)	By Owners	14
(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil

(c)	Proceedings under Sections 16, 17 and 23 of Housing Act, 1957.	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	6
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	8
(d)	Proceedings under Section 18 of the Housing Act, 1957.	
(1)	Number of Closing Orders made	8
(2)	Number of Closing Orders determined, the accommodation having been rendered fit	Nil

INSPECTIONS — — — — —

Sanitary Inspection of the Area — — — — —

The following statement shows the number and nature of inspections carried out during the year 1964, also the number of notices served and the various items dealt with:—

Caravans	80
Cinemas, Theatres, Clubs, Hotels	—
Complaints investigated	1184
Drainage inspections	163

Dwelling-houses:—

Public Health Acts	1397
Housing Acts	147
Re-inspections	628
Rent Act	15
Improvement Grants	166
Dirty and/or Verminous Premises	51
Factories	71

Food Premises:—

Butchers	57
Bakehouses	46
Interviews	363
Fish Frying	37
Ice Cream	—
Dairies, Farms	96
Shops	610
Markets, Stalls, Vans	85
Infectious Diseases	22

Offensive Trades:—

Tripe Boiling	...	...	...	...	...	5
Rag and Bone Merchant	...	...	...	...	...	—
Knacker Yard	...	...	...	...	...	37
Rats and Mice	...	...	...	...	...	92
Piggeries, Stables, Poultry	...	...	...	...	...	—
Shops Act, 1950	...	...	...	...	...	24
Clean Air Act—Smoke and Dust Nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	562
Refuse Collection and Disposal	...	...	...	...	...	442
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	245
Sampling—Water, Milk, Food, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	84
Animal Boarding Establishments	...	...	...	...	...	17
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises	...	...	...	...	...	266

Notices Served.

Informal Notices	...	...	...	...	...	273
Statutory Notices	...	...	...	...	...	14

At the end of the year 54 informal notices remained to be dealt with.

The attention of the Borough Surveyor and/or Water Engineer was called to the following defects:—

Choked sewers, street gullies and drains	...	...	...	...	...	29
Waste or poor pressure of water, defective stop taps, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	8
Repairs to Corporation property	...	...	...	...	...	28
Defective pavements, back lanes, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	6
Dangerous structures	...	...	...	...	...	2
Accumulations of Rubbish	...	...	...	...	...	5
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	3
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	1
						—
						82

**Summary of Works carried out as a
Result of Notices Served.**

Drainage:—

Drains re-laid	...	...	...	...	...	19
Choked drains cleared	...	...	...	...	...	71
Inspection chambers provided	...	...	...	...	...	—
Gullies renewed	...	...	...	...	...	14

Sanitary Conveniences:—

Flushing cisterns repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	11
W.C. basins renewed	...	...	...	...	7
Cone joints renewed	...	...	...	...	9
Seats renewed	...	...	...	...	2
Doors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	2
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	5
Soil and vent pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	3
Walls repaired	...	...	...	...	5
Insufficient water supply	...	...	...	...	4
Water Pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	16
Floors repaired	...	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	3

Yards and Outbuildings:—

Accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	19
Yard surfaces relaid	...	...	...	...	10
Yard doors to renew or repair	...	...	...	...	6

Exterior of Houses:—

Chimney stacks repaired	...	...	...	...	9
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	42
Spouting cleansed or renewed	...	...	...	...	44

Interior of Houses:—

Ceilings repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	3
Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	9
Fireplaces or ovens repaired	...	...	...	...	5
Doors repaired	...	...	...	...	5
Wallplaster renewed	...	...	...	...	31
Windows repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	31
Accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	19
Waterpipes renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	16
Dampness remedied	...	...	...	...	45
Staircases repaired	...	...	...	...	2
Sinks and Baths	...	...	...	...	3
Premises cleansed	...	...	...	...	9

Miscellaneous:—

Caravans removed	...	...	...	...	5
Smoke nuisance	...	...	...	...	1
General	...	...	...	...	13

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The number of inspections made in connection with the Food Hygiene Regulations was 610 as compared with 1,214 in 1963.

The following is a list of food premises in the Borough:

Licensed Premises, Clubs and Temperance Hotels	95
Cafes, Snack Bars and Canteens	60
Butchers	29
Dairies	38
Grocers (predominant business)	76
Fruit and Vegetables (predominant business) ...	34
Fish	9
Fried Fish and Chips	16
Tripe	1
Bakers and Confectioners	42
Sweets	50
General (shops selling a variety of goods) ...	60
Brewers and Soft Drink Manufacturers	5
Poultry	2
	<hr/>
	517
	<hr/>

Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, requires the registration of all premises where ice cream is manufactured or sold and where sausages, potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food is prepared or manufactured. The number of premises so registered is 159.

Ice Cream	96
Preserved Food	63

There are five manufacturers of ice cream within the Borough. One prepares by the "hot mix" method and four by the "cold mix" method. The majority of ice cream sold by the 96 retailers is pre-wrapped.

There are 39 registered dairies and 24 registered purveyors of milk within the Borough. The grades of milk sold are pasteurised, sterilised and untreated. All milk for domestic use is bottled. A number of vending machines are in operation distributing pasteurised milk in waxed cartons.

There are six producer-retailers. On each of these farms untreated milk is produced, bottled and distributed.

In one dairy milk produced on farms outside the Borough is pasteurised and bottled.

Approximately 1 ton 11 cwts. of foodstuffs were surrendered as unfit for human consumption. After surrender, foodstuffs are collected and deposited on the refuse tip at the beginning of each working day so as to ensure complete coverage with refuse.

During the year legal proceedings were taken against two firms as a result of complaints received from purchasers of foodstuffs:—

- (1) Insect contained in a tin of pineapple pieces—
£50 fine.
- (2) Piece of glass in a bottle of milk—£50 fine.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION — — — —

The regular daily readings from the two observation stations established in co-operation with the Warren Springs Laboratory of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research have been continued throughout the year.

From the graph (fig. 1) it will be seen that the expected rise in the winter months is very evident, on average the smoke pollution increasing in ratio of 7:1.

The graphs showing the pollution in relation to wind direction (figs. 2 and 3) indicate clearly that the highest readings are recorded when the wind is blowing from the housing estates. No. 1 station (Railway View) from the south east to south west (Westfield, Newlands, Moorclose and Annie Pit) and No. 2 station (Salterbeck) from north east to south east (Westfield and Salterbeck).

At No. 1 station the highest “smoke” reading was 512 mgms. cu. mtr. on a clear and cold day in January with no wind; the lowest being 16 on a fine June day with a light north east wind. The highest SO_2 reading was 213 on a clear calm March day and the lowest 16 on a wet August day with a medium south west wind.

At No. 2 Station the highest “smoke” reading was 780 on a clear cold calm January day with the lowest 4 on a showery June day with a medium west wind.

The highest SO_2 reading being 99 on a clear cold calm January day and there were several occasions when no SO_2 was recorded.

Pollution from industrial sources is normally produced at a steady level throughout the year, even though this level is gradually being reduced by the improvement of processing

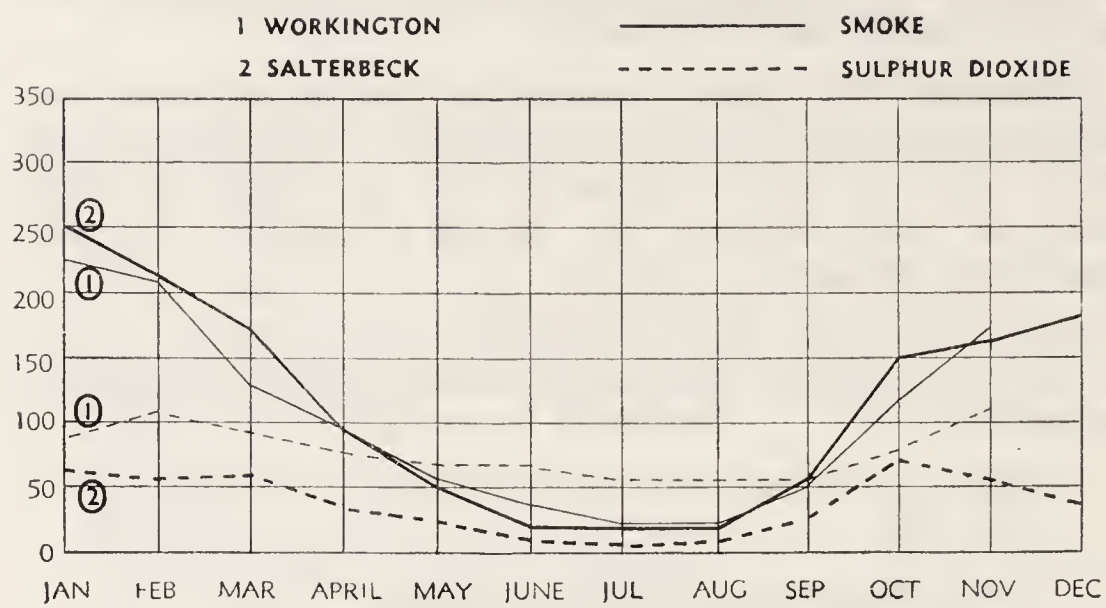


FIG (1)

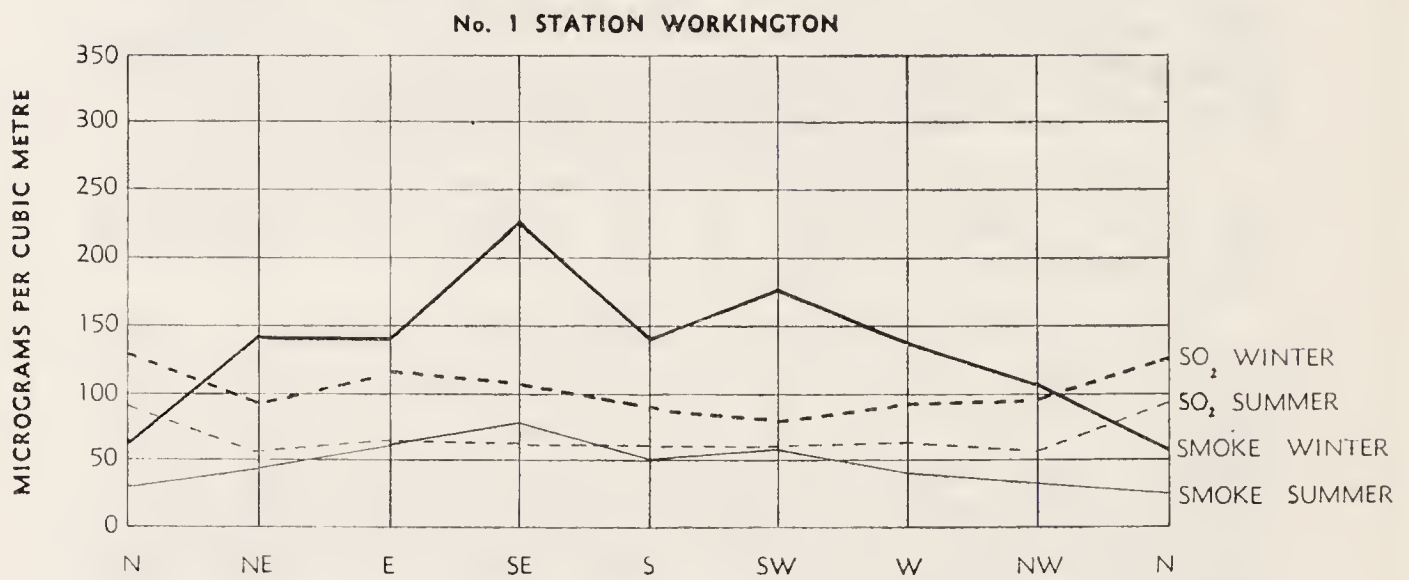


FIG (2)

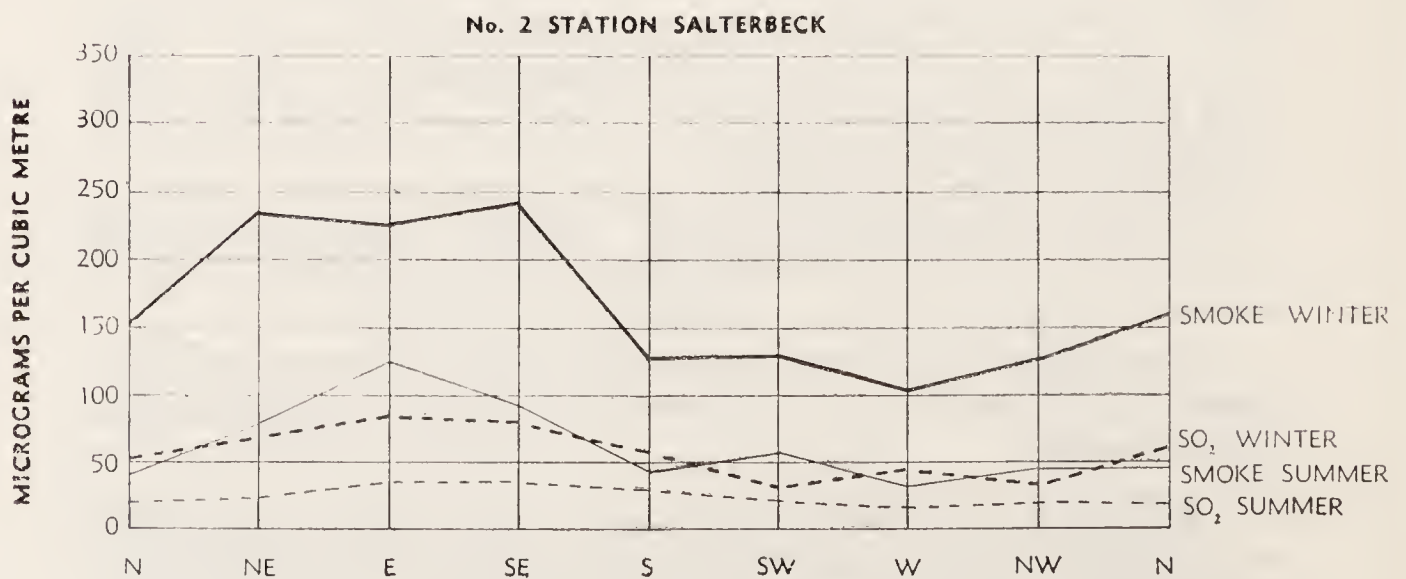


FIG (3)

techniques, use of smokeless fuels and the burning of coal in more efficient boilers, etc. Accepting this fact and also that industry is normally working during the summer months it must be inferred that the rise of pollution shown in the graphs, during the cooler months, is mainly due to the use of inefficient domestic appliances not using "smokeless" fuels. The graphs showing pollution according to the wind direction give added strength to this supposition.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT —

Registration of premises under this Act became compulsory during the year and the following extract from the Annual Return, relating to the position at 31st December, 1964, shows the numbers of premises registered and the numbers of persons employed:—

	<i>Registered in 1964</i>	<i>Persons Employed</i>
Offices	90	782
Shops	225	1011
Warehouses	19	113
Caterers	24	113
Fuel Storage	—	—
Totals	358	2019
		<hr/>
Males Employed		828
Females Employed		1191
		<hr/>

Verminous Premises.

During the year 192 houses were treated by this Department.

	<i>Council Houses.</i>	<i>Other Houses.</i>
Fleas	—	1
Cockroaches	13	19
Ants	70	83
Silverfish	3	1
Earwigs	1	1
		<hr/>
		87
		<hr/>
		105
		<hr/>

Fluids and powders used for disinfestation work contain Pyrethrins, lindane/D.D.T., and for ant extermination 0.25 per cent. Thallium Sulphate in syrup is used.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949 —

156 complaints regarding rats and mice were received and 92 visits were made by the Public Health Inspectors. The treatment service was carried out by the Department's handy-man involving 523 visits. No serious infestation occurred.

Notices were served on the occupiers of 15 allotments and the occupier of adjacent land to rid their premises of rats, and, with the co-operation of the rodent operator this was rapidly and successfully carried out.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961 — — — — —

There are 197 factories within the Borough and 71 inspections were made during the year. 17 notices were served for various defects, etc.

Classification of defects and contraventions:—

Want of cleanliness	5
Unreasonable temperature	—
Inadequate ventilation	—
Defective sanitary conveniences	7
Ineffective drainage of floors	8
Abstract not displayed	—

Herewith are the prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1961, as required by Ministry of Health circular 1/64 dated the 13th January, 1964.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of Inspections (3)	Number of written notices (4)	Number of Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	41	22	9	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	113	47	8	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	43	2	—	—
Total	197	71	17	—

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	Referred By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	5	5	—	1	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	8	8	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	2	2	—	2	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	5	5	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
Total	20	20	—	4	—

The following is a classified list of trades carried out in the Borough (not necessarily factories).

Aerated Waters	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Paint Making, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Corn Merchants	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Printing, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Gas undertaking	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Laundry	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Dyers and Cleaners	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Brewery	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Weaving	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Quarrying	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
General Dealers and Scrap Sorters	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Building Trades	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Wood Cutting and Working	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Leather Working, Shoe Repairing, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Monumental Masons	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Waste Paper Baling	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Fire Lighter Making	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Collieries	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Tailoring, Cutting, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
Fish Frying	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Rum Butter Manufacture	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Tripe Dressing	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Fur Manufacture	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Light Engineering, including Motor Repairs	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Heavy Engineering	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Watch and Clock Repairing	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Electrical Undertaking	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Plumbers, Gasfitters, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Scale Repairing	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Knacker Yard	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Electrical and Radio Repair	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Cement Industry and Roadstone Makers	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Building operations	...	...	...	...	...	...	43
Paper processing	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Food Inspection.

The following foodstuffs were found unfit for human consumption and in all cases Certificates were issued to the respective vendors and the foodstuffs were destroyed.

Tinned Goods

Ham	...	...	56 tins	Strawberries	...	3 tins
Pork	...	...	218 tins	Blackcurrants	...	16 tins
Steak	...	...	57 tins	Grapes	...	5 tins
Corned Beef	...	...	92 tins	Apricots	...	7 tins
Tongue	...	...	18 tins	Plums	...	5 tins
Veal	...	...	3 tins	Fruit Cocktail	...	65 tins
Sausages	...	...	3 tins	Tomatoes	...	32 tins
Bacon	...	...	1 tin	Rhubarb	...	3 tins
Luncheon Meat	...	...	74 tins	Prunes	...	24 tins
Tuna	...	...	19 tins	Baked Beans	...	67 tins
Salmon	...	...	37 tins	Processed Peas	...	241 tins
Shrimps	...	...	10 tins	Green Beans	...	14 tins
Pilchards	...	...	59 tins	Garden Peas	...	23 tins
Crab	...	...	2 tins	Carrots	...	58 tins
Chicken	...	...	9 tins	Soup	...	65 tins
Peaches	...	...	133 tins	Stew	...	13 tins
Pineapples	...	...	130 tins	Puddings	...	36 tins
Grapefruit	...	...	91 tins	Spaghetti	...	11 tins
Pears	...	...	121 tins	Jam	...	5 tins
Oranges	...	...	9 tins	Cream	...	13 tins
Evaporated Milk	...	...	131 tins			

Other Foods

Bacon	...	...	141 lbs.	Sago	...	27 lbs.
Kidney	...	...	14 lbs.	Potatoes	...	371 lbs.
Chicken	...	...	15 lbs.	Butter	...	68 lbs.
Blackcurrants	...	...	30 lbs.	Cheese	...	44 lbs.
Pears	...	...	84 lbs.	Mushrooms	...	100 lbs.

In addition 310 various packets of Frozen Foods which had become defrosted and 191 packets and 106 lbs. of various foodstuffs which had become water soaked due to flooding were destroyed. The approximate weight of foodstuffs condemned was 1 ton 11 cwt.

CUMBERLAND STAR LTD.